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The TV-TS Tapestry

A publication of The TIFFANY CLUB
P.O. Box 426, N. Hampton, NH 03862 617-891-8022

MONTHLY REPORT

(First let me opologize for the delay in this month's newsletter. The confusion of Fantasia Fair left my schedule - and a large chunk of my bio-system - in disarray.)

Halliluah! They finished the siding. (You remember, the siding that was supposed to be on the house before we moved in a year ago?) We no longer have the only 3-tone house in town. Now we can say, "We are the yellow house on the left," instead of, "We are the yellow, green and tin-foil house on the left (with the black, orange and olive drab roof). The house is so pretty now it seems a shame that we're planning to move.

September was a crazy month, so full of the nit-picky trivia (run here, go there, pick up that, do the other thing, etc.) that we never had time to plan for anything except the party.

The party!

What a party. Phew! I had it on good authority (my personal astrologer) that the moon was right for a good party, and by God she was right. The food was good as usual, with a few stand-outs such as Nancy's lox, and Donna's cake. Let's talk about that cake for a minute. It was a beautiful full-figured cake (the 'Jane Russell' of the Duncan Hines set) tastefully frosted in a baby blue bikini (with marichino nipples). Well! Donna carefully cut out the central portion of the lower half of the bikini and gave it to me. In it was baked a quarter, with the explanation, "Bet this is the cheapest piece of - - - (cake) I've ever eaten." Wrong! It's the first time I've ever been paid to eat a piece of - - - (cake). (We gave one of the boobs to Karen who promptly choked. I think that was because she was laughing too hard to eat the damned thing.) Other hilights included Betsy's close encounter of the third kind with an un-

Monthly Report Cont.

identified flying lamp, shiela's video, and of course Liz's performance.

Liz: now here's an attractive young lady, very dignified and proper. (Actually, she looks like Mrs. Blake, my 5th grade teacher.) You take this lovely, chic, sophisticated woman, feed her a few daquiris, turn her loose in the boutique and she comes back looking like Jack Elam in drag. (or, the charwoman on Carol Burnett's show.) This last time around she came back looking like a drunk-tank survivor modeling for Frederick's. (If my 5th grade class could have seen her.) In any case, she had fun, and we're proud of her. We're proud of all our guests and friends. It was a super party. If you missed it, we're sorry. Don't miss the next one.

Love, Merissa Sherrill Lynn

LIZ

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE TAPESTRY

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BE YOUR OWN PHOTOGRAPHER, PART II

by Christine Lea

(This is part two of a two part series. The first part, which concentrated on the technical, was published in last month's Tapestry. This part will concentrate on the actual taking of the photographs.)

In Part I I listed some of the equipment that might prove helpful in shooting good portraits of our feminine sides.

Now its time to get down to the fun part - taking beautiful portraits of your femme half.

One very helpful way to get started is to pull out any other photos you might have of yourself as a woman. Critique these mercilessly. If they are not too flattering - why? If something in the photo jars on the senses - what exactly is it? What are the good points?

I have found that making notations directly on the photo with a fine tip felt marker is a great aid in improving future portraits. Circle what you don't like, anything that doesn't seem just right. Nose looks too big, shoulders too broad, biceps too big, too much body hair, etc.

(cont.)

(Be Your Own Photographer, Cont.)

Then go through and find the good points. Pretty eyes, good smile, that wig works well with my face, nice legs, etc.

Now, the trick is to simply accentuate the good points while experimenting in how you can eliminate, or at least reduce the emphasis on the bad points.

This critiqueing should be an ongoing, continuous procedure. Scrutinize all your photos, from every photo session. In this way you are able to learn all sorts of tricks that will lead to better photos.

For example, someone with a long nose will find that a shot taken with you looking more or less directly at the camera wibl reduce its apparent size. Being blessed with a somewhat prominent proboscis, I learned early to avoid full profile shots.

A little bit of dark contour makeup blended into the sides of the nose will give the impression of smaller size. This trick works well on all sorts of problem areas. Remember that a slightly darker area will appear to recede, while a brighter area will be accented and seem to project.

Thus with a little time and practice, one can reduce the appearance of not only large noses, but jutting chins, puffy cheeks, jowls, etc. Be careful not to overdo the contouring however!! Once this trick is perfected, it can be used anytime you get dolled up - it works just as well on the street as it does in front of a camera.

Another feature that torments most crossdressers is the problem of excessively large shoulders and upper arms. Its hard to project as a petite, sweet little thing when you are built like a fullback.

This problem can also be reduced in your photos. First, your choice of an outfit is very important. Avoid clothing that draws attention to your shoulders. Such items as tank tops, sleeveless blouses, strap dresses, etc, while being very nice to wear, just don't make it with big, brawny shoulders. Instead, look for outfits with soft flowing sleeves. The softness will camoflage your shoulders while at the same time projecting femininity.

When taking the photos, avoid a full face on view of the torso. A very seductive pose can be achieved by turning one arm toward the camera, then looking over the shoulder. Any position in which the shoulders are presented at an angle to the camera will help to diminish their apparent size and width.

Large, hairy arms are a problem that can be solved by simply sticking to those dresses or blouses with long sleeves. Short of actually shaving your arms, there is not too much you can do if you are excessively hirsute. Bleaching and trimming help, but if overdone can cause problems in your male role. Fortunately, there are a lot of really gorgeouse fashions today that use long sleeves.

If you have hands like a pair of catcher's mitts, your best bet is to try to discreetly keep them out of the picture. Be careful to maintain a natural position - you want your hands out of the way, but you don't want to look as if you were intentionally hiding them. This tends to draw the viewers eye subconciously and they wind up with the feeling that something is not quite right with the photo.

If your hands are smaller and can be made to look feminine, use them by all means! Pretty hands, or hands holding something, look natural and create a secondary point of interest which can help spark up a portrait. The use of artificial fingernails can be a marvel for your hands. Long nails tend to create an image of long slim fingers. Try to stick with a nail polish color that is somewhat muted. Colors that are too bright or flashy attract too much attention. Unless you have the delicate hands of a concert pianist, most of us can't get away with too much scrutiny of our hands.

Showing lots of nylon clad leg can make for a very alluring photo. If you are unable to, or decide not to shave your legs, simply wearing two pairs of hose will usually cover all trace of hair. Someone looking at

(cont.)

(Be Your Own Photographer, Cont.)

your portrait will have no idea that this feminine little lady really has legs like a neanderthal.

The Shooting

In choosing the outfit you will be wearing, you should strive to make every pose the very best you can. It is extremely frustrating when the picture of you in a thrown together, raggedly looking outfit turns out to be the only one in which your face looks like a hollywood starlet.

To get proper focus, I've found that propping a pillow up where you will be posing and focusing on this will do the trick. It is quite aggravating to shoot a whole roll and come to find out that you're nothing but a grey blob while the wall behind you is crystal clear.

A few words on processing. Most photo processing companies are fully automated nowadays, so the chances are very good that no one will ever see your photos. If you are concerned about privacy, use a fake name when you take your film in to the Fotomat. They don't care as long as you have your ticket stub. (Try this one: J. Carter, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.)

You would be wise to avoid the mail order "discretion assured" processing services advertised in some TV magazines. While most of these are probably legitimate, photos sent to some of these people have been known to turn up in some very suprising places.

When choosing the location for your photo session, try to find a nice attractive area of the room. You want to have something behind you to avoid a monotonous blank appearance, but on the other hand, if the background is too busy, it will distract from the portrait.

Don't be afraid to try different areas in your house or apartment. Move around! Get shots in all sorts of positions - sitting, standing, laying down, whatever your mood suggests. Relax!! There is no sense shooting an entire roll of yourself in the same stiff seated position. Put on your favorite music. Dance a little. Try on all sorts of different outfits. Get into your fantasy life, be all sorts of different women - be a business woman, a coed, a rich bitch, a hooker. Have a couple of stiff drinks or some smoke, anything to get you relaxed and feeling like a lady. No matter how good you look, if you look, if you are not really feeling your femininity, you are not projecting it. Passing in front of a camera is just as hard as passing in a shopping mall - the camera doesn't lie.

Christie Lea Newport, R.I.
(401) 847-3029

If approached in the right frame of mind, a photo session can be a marvelous time. It gives you a chance to practice your feminine skills such as gestures, mannerisms, makeup, appearance, etc. And as a bonus, you wind up with some portraits of the "girl within" that you'll be proud to show off.

Anyone interested in the photographic aspects of our paraculture, and the development of a good portfolio is welcome to give me a call.

- END -

Dearest Merissa:-

Hope to see you for the Nov. meeting. In the meantime, here's a new song for our tv songsheet.

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Sung to:- " I'm An Old Cowhand"

I'm an old tv, what's left of me,
My legs are bowed and I'm pigeon toed.
I'm an old tv who has had her day,
Had a lot of fun along the way,
Now my teeth are gone and my hair is gray.
YIPPIE I O KY AYE? YIPPIE I O KY AYE?

I'M an old tv and it's plain to see
That there's been a change in parts of me.
One boob's A and the other is D,
One foot's B and the other is E,
And mostly now I stand up to pee.
YIPPIE I O KY AYE? YIPPIE I O KY AYE?

Big Love
Dee Dee

- COMING EVENTS -

TIFFANY CLUB 617-891-8022

OPEN MEETINGS 7pm Tues. and Sat. Relaxed evenings among friends. Help with makeup and comportment upon request. BYOB BYOF
FEES: $5.- There is no charge for special guests, and General and Key members.

BUSINESS MEETINGS 8pm the fourth Thursday of every month. All General and Key members interested in being actively involved are encouraged to attend.
(Because of the holidays, November and December's meetings will be held on the third Thursday of the month.)

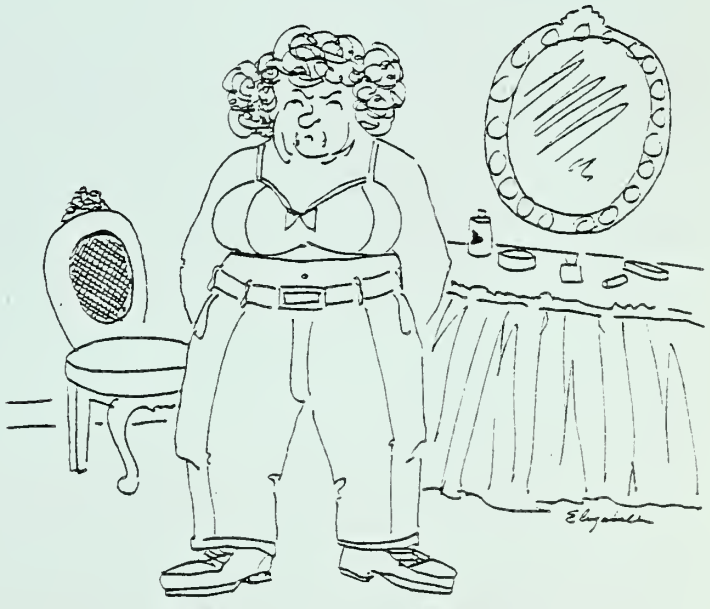
HALLOWEEN 7pm Friday October 31, in the ballroom of the Holiday Inn in Waltham. $5.00 cover charge

WIGS 8pm Tuesday, November 18. Elinor and Ann, two wig specialists, formerly of the WigWam and Wig City, will visit Tiffany.

THANKSGIVING 4pm Saturday, November 22 (note change from last month's schedule).) Reservations required! (We have space for a maximum of 20 people, so get your reservation in as soon as possible.)

(cont.)

(Our opologies to Shakespeare)



TV or not TV?

(Coming events, cont.)

BIRTHDAY PARTY 7pm Saturday, December 6 Tiffany is 3 years old. Guests are expected to bring a covered dish, and RSVP.

CHRISTMAS DINNER & PARTY Saturday, December 20. This will probably be dinner in the late afternoon, followed by a Christmas party. Details will be announced at a later date.

(UNANNOUNCED EVENTS. We frequently have programs, special guests, and things going on that we cannot schedule. Please keep in touch. 617-891-8022)

THE KAY MAYFLOWER SOCIETY 617-254-7389

OPEN MEETINGS Every Wenesday from 7pm

OPEN PARTIES 7pm the last Saturday of every month. (There is an additional $2.00 cover charge.)

HARTFORD TVIC Meetings are normally scheduled for every second Saturday. However, since the destruction of TVIC's facilities, meetings are scheduled when locations can be found. For information contact: Patsy Marie Pichon, Box 180, West Hartford, Ct. 06107

ALBANY TVIC Meetings every third Saturday. For information contact: William Thordsen, 1104 Broadway, Albany NY 12200

XX CLUB OF HARTFORD Transsexual support. Meetings every second and forth Saturday. For information contact: Rev. Clinton R. Jones, George W. Henry Foundation, 45 Church St., Hartford, ct. 06103

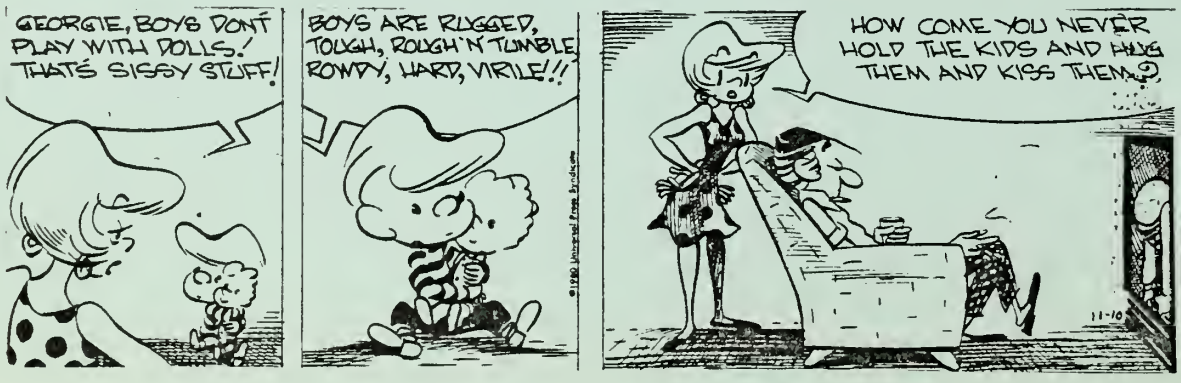
FUTURE MEETINGS (11/22 and 12/27 are cancelled because of the holidays.

11/8 Self Examination workshop
12/13 Dr. David Wesser

(cont.)

MYSTERY MEMBER

Who is this sexy wench?
Hint: She is married to a sexy wench.



(Coming Events, cont.)

CASEY & URSULA TV parties held in the mid Long Island NY area the 4th Saturday of every month. Reservations required. For information: Casy & Ursula Kwarta, 50 Sunny Rd., St. James NY 11780 516-584-7736 (7-11pm)

BLOSSOM PASTER TV parties in Philadelphia. For information: Blossom C. Paster, 1009 Hartel Ave., Phila. Pa. 19111

JOYCE DEWHURST TV parties in Queens NYC. For information: Joyce Dewhurst, Box 1105, Woodside NY, 11377 212-545-4073

FANTASIA FAIR Annual 9 day TV event held in Provincetown Mass. For information: Outreach Institute Box 368 Kenmore Sta., Boston Ma. 02215 617-277-3454 (or contact the Tiffany Club, 617-891-8022)

MIDWEST SUMMER GALA Annual 3 day summer event held in Chicago. For information: R. Hess, 431 Barry, Chicago Ill. 60657

SHANGRI LA Annual 5 day springtime event held in Gulfport Miss. For information: Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine Ca. 92664

DREAM Annual 5 day fall event held near Seattle Wash. For information: DREAM, box 58, 507 3rd Ave., Seattle Wash. 98104

TRI SIGMA CONVENTION Annual fall event for members of Tri Sigma only. For information contact: Carol Beecroft, box 194, Tulare Ca. 93275

GREEN APPLE LOUNGE Rt 1, Peabody Mass. 617-535-9840 Featuring New England's finest female impersonators 7 nights a week.

HALLOWEEN Thursday, Oct. 30. Costume contest between shows, cash prizes.

THIS MONTH'S GUEST Bobbie Ray

- BULLETIN BOARD -

RATCHEL O. SWM TV HETERO. Would like to correspond by mail with other TVs.
Ratchel O. P.O.B. 109, Monaca, Pa. 105061

MARILYN 30, 145, 5'8, member of GGA. Outdoor interests. Would like to learn the art of cross-dressing from a female.
Jerry Kelderhouse, POB 56, Maple Springs, NY 14756

(Bulletin Board, cont.)

MARION 39, 5'9, 145, married. Wife knows but doesn't understand.
Marion P. c/o Tiffany
POB 426, N. Hampton, NH 03862

ALICIA LYNN C. 48, married, been crossdressing since 6 yrs old. I believe in androgyny, and am interested in books and live theater. Would like to hear from crossdressers who have worked out a good relation with their partners. Will answer your letters & trade photos.
POB 42330, Portland Or. 97242

ATTN: F-M TSs

Dear Gateway and Readers,

I am writing for help. I'm a recovered alcoholic, pre-op female-to-male transsexual. I am living in a small town working as a teacher. I need some support and would like to know if someone out there is willing to correspond. I really need to connect with someone.

Sincerly,
Jud P.
PO Box 391
Mission, SD, 57555

FOR SALE

22T warm winter coat calf-length suede leather, lined fur collar tie belt
Like new originally $250.00 +, asking $125.-
KIM 617-776-7920

BEA JORDAN

is no longer working as a private consultant for TVs, but she will do sewing and alterations.
For information on how to contact Bea, call The Tiffany Club, (617) 891-8022

CHARLENE K. 5'9, 140. Am interesed in writing, cooking, reading and movies. I consider myself TS, and would be most interested in corresponding with and meeting other TSs.
Charlene Kirby, POB 206, Bedford Ma., 01730

'TRANSSEXUAL MODELING AGENCY' developing in Colorado. This is primarily a psychological and professional career development service which is oriented to helping those with true feminine beauty find a means to support themselves which can truly fulfill their inner longings, and also to groom and develop those which do have the talent to be a true woman.
For further information: Laureen Harrow enterprises, POB 2242 Boulder, Colorado. 80306

- FORUM -

'MY STORY' - Epilogue

by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

The response to last month's article 'My Story' was suprising. I knew a number of people would understand and identify with it, but I didn't expect so many. When I think about it though, I shouldn't be suprised. I've spent so much time and effort practicing being honest to myself about myself that it is now easy for me to be up front about who and what I am and how I came to be this way. It is too easy to forget that other people are not so fortunate.

Because of the article many people came to me and thanked me for telling 'their story', the story they couldn't tell. My life is not their life, so why would my story be theirs? The answer is because of a shared sensual experience.

Think about it!

How many people have experienced the sensations of admiration, or envy? How many people have been rewarded with the sensation of ego gratification, a euphoric high, or enjoyed an erotic response (to something other than your basic missionary position, and for some other reason than propagation)? How many have suffered the anger of others, or the sensation of fear, or guilt, or rejection?

We are all human beings. Human beings experience life differently. We think and act differently, and feel differently about different things with different intensities. Human beings are all different, but we all <u>feel</u>, and that is the key.

Suppose I say, "I admire and envy women so much that I want to be one." Another person may not feel the same way towards women, but would certainly know the power of the sensation of envy, and could understand and respect that sensation in me. Through that mutually shared sensation of envy we have the means by which to communicate.

Suppose I see a beautiful woman and say, "God, I wish I could look like her," and the thought of looking like her, of feeling pretty and being the object of desire, sexually excites me. It is not necessary a person understand <u>why</u> something turns someone on, just <u>that</u> something turns someone on. Then, anyone who has experienced and enjoyed the sensation of sexual arousal can identify with and appreciate that same sensation in me.

Suppose I say, "When I'm dressed I feel a sense of euphoria. I feel wonderful, at peace and happy." It is the 'sense of joy' and not the 'act

POEMS

by Alicia Lynn

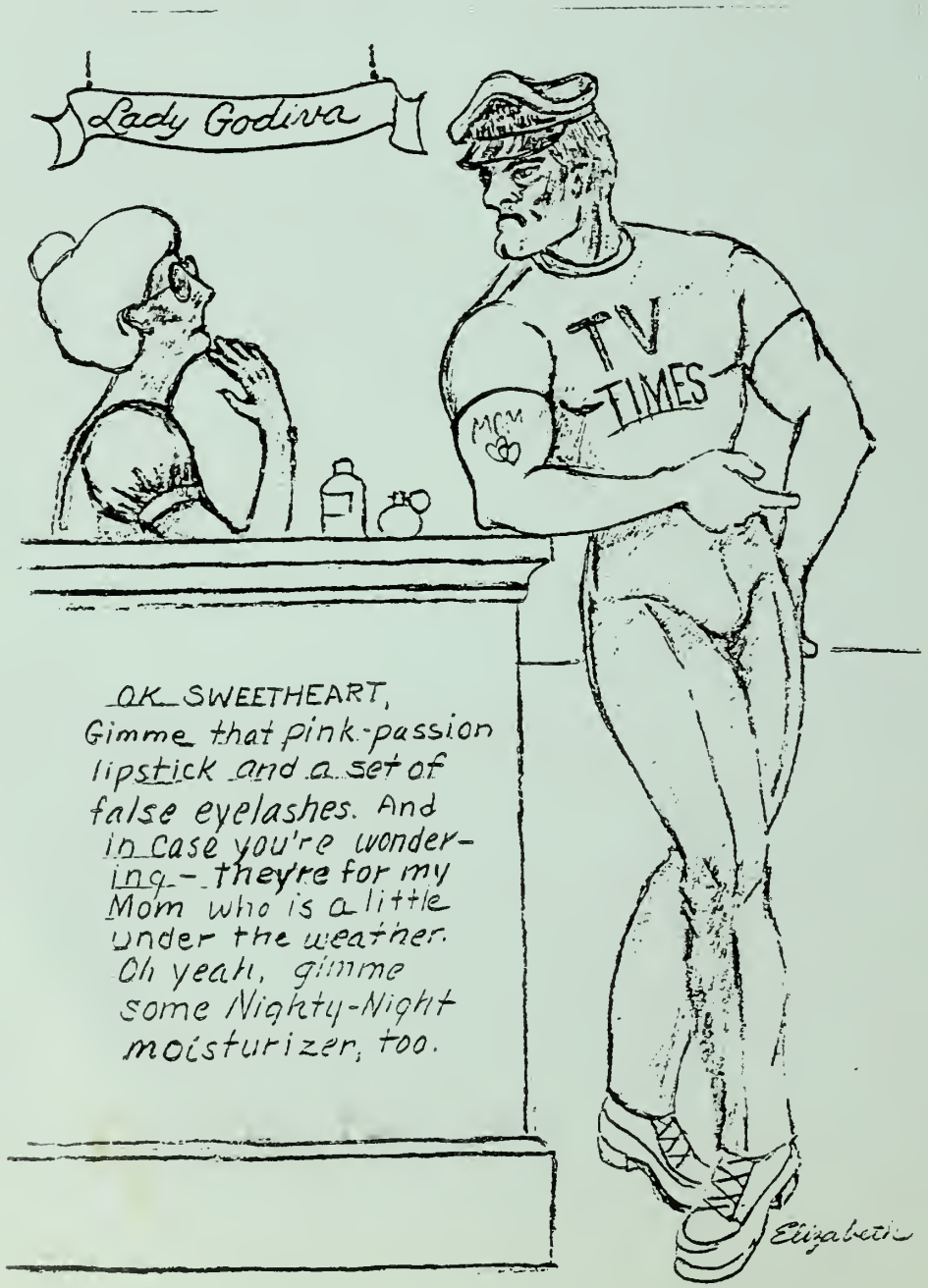
man is not 'man'
he is also woman
but each play the role
the role is sometimes hard
I wish we were allowed
to be who we are

I think I shall never be a tree -
you see
and stand out in the park at night
cause as you know it the park
it is very scary -
alone out there in the dark

what is this longed for femininity -
a desire for something better?
better - do I know what is better?
can I pin it down - or explain it?
how can I explain something that
defies explanation?
something that has to be felt -
not a thing to be put into words
why do I desire that which is so
difficult to attain?
maybe this search this hope is
what gives me strength to go on
without this quest of femininity
the world would overcome me

(Epilogue, cont.)

of dressing' that can be understood and communicated. That sense of joy is no different than the joy felt by a skier after a great ski run, a bridge player's bidding and making a grand slam, or an investor making a killing in the stock market. (You look like you just heard from Dean-Witter, or you look like you just heard from Lane Bryant. . . same thing.) Anyone who has ever experienced the sensation of overwhelming joy can understand.

The point of this is: many people told me they identified with 'My Story' in last month's newsletter. It is not that anyone identified with 'My Story', for it was much too personal. However, they did understand and identify with the sensations of envy, of ego gratification and joy, of sexual delight, of love, and most of all, of fear. They understood 'My Story', and it became in a very real and relevant sense, their story.

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